



# UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
United States Patent and Trademark Office  
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450  
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/469,979	12/21/1999	JONAS ALOWERSSON	6563-54044	5624
7590	11/05/2003		EXAMINER	
Coudert Brothers 600 Beach Street San Francisco, CA 94109			NGUYEN, PHUONGCHAU BA	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2665	
DATE MAILED: 11/05/2003				

9

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

<b>Office Action Summary</b>	Application No.	Applicant(s)
	09/469,979	ALOWERSSON ET AL.
	Examiner	Art Unit
	Phuongchau Ba Nguyen	2665

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --  
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

**Status**

1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 6-20-03 Election .

2a) This action is **FINAL**.                    2b) This action is non-final.

3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

**Disposition of Claims**

4) Claim(s) 1-35 is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5) Claim(s) 1-35 is/are allowed.

6) Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are rejected.

7) Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.

8) Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

**Application Papers**

9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10) The drawing(s) filed on 21 December 1999 is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

11) The proposed drawing correction filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is: a) approved b) disapproved by the Examiner.

If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.

12) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120**

13) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a) All b) Some \* c) None of:

1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_ .

3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

14) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).

a) The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.

15) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

**Attachment(s)**

1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)	4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____ .
2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)	5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____ .	6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ .

QUALE ACTION

1. This application is in condition for allowance except for the following formal matters:

A/. The drawings are objected to because all numbers in all figures should be labeled with descriptive legends {i.e., number 10 in figure 1 should be labeled as 10 (a serial to parallel converter)}.

A proposed drawing correction or corrected drawings are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. The objection to the drawings will not be held in abeyance.

B/. The drawings are objected to as failing to comply with 37 CFR 1.84(p)(5) because they include the following reference sign(s) not mentioned in the description: 16 in figure 1.

A proposed drawing correction, corrected drawings, or amendment to the specification to add the reference sign(s) in the description, are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. The objection to the drawings will not be held in abeyance.

C/. The disclosure is objected to because of the following informalities:

“,” (page 7, line 15) should be deleted.

-The abstract of the disclosure is objected to because “Fig.2”(line 20, page 23) should be deleted. Correction is required. See MPEP § 608.01(b). /

Appropriate correction is required.

D/. Claims 1, 21, 34–35 are objected to because of the following informalities:

Claim 1, line 3:

---of--- should be inserted before “serial”

“channel” should be changed to ---channels---

Claim 1, line 4:

---of--- should be inserted before “said”

Claim 1, line 6:

“of said storage cell” should be changed to --of said storage cells-

Claim 21, line 1:

---in--- should be inserted before the word “claim”, and “to”  
should be deleted.

Claim 34, line 1:

“an apparatus” should be changed to ---said apparatus---

Claim 34, line 2:

“1, 16 or 17” should be changed to ---1 or 16---.

Claim 35, line 3:

“in accordance with a method as claimed in any one of claims 18 or 26” should be changed ---as claimed in claim 18----

Claims 18-25 are improper dependent claims, because dependent claims 18-25, to independent apparatus claim 1 or 16, are method claims. It is noted that claim sets should be in the same category such as apparatus claim comprising means for... and method claim comprising steps of.... Therefore, method claims 18-25 should amend to be consistent with their apparatus independent claim 1 or 16.

Appropriate correction is required.

Prosecution on the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under

*Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

A shortened statutory period for reply to this action is set to expire **TWO** MONTHS from the mailing date of this letter.

***Election/Restrictions***

2. Claims 17, 26-33 are directed to an allowable product. Pursuant to the procedures set forth in the Official Gazette notice dated March 26, 1996 (1184 O.G. 86), claims 17, 26-33, directed to the process of making or using the patentable product, previously withdrawn from consideration as a result of a restriction requirement, claims 17, 26-33 now subject to being rejoined.

Claims 17, 26-33 hereby rejoined and fully examined for patentability under 37 CFR 1.104.

Since all claims previously withdrawn from consideration under 37 CFR 1.142 have been rejoined, the restriction requirement made in Paper No. 7 (5-20-03) is hereby withdrawn.

*Allowable Subject Matter*

3. Claims 1-35 are allowable because the prior art of the record fails to teach "at least one buffering element arranged to separate said data bus into portions"(independent claims 1, 16 and 17) which is considered in combination with other limitations that are recited in claims 1-35.

4. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Phuongchau Ba Nguyen whose telephone number is 703-305-0093. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m..

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Huy Vu can be reached on 703-308-6602. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (703) 872-9306.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 703-305-4700.



STEVEN H. D. NGUYEN  
PRIMARY EXAMINER

Application/Control Number: 09/469,979  
Art Unit: 2665

Page 7

pn  
Phuongchau Ba Nguyen  
Examiner  
Art Unit 2665